
**Bacteria**

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**California condor**

We are microscopic, one-celled organisms. You can't see us, but we are everywhere, and we can break down almost anything.



I am a type of bird. My excellent eyesight helps me to find my food from far away.
I eat dead animals.



Earthworm



Mold

My body is long, soft, and made up of segments. I tunnel through the soil and eat bacteria, fungi, and rotting plant parts.



I am a fungus. I am blue and gray in color. You can often find me on old food like bread and fruit, which I break down. I like damp places.



Mushroom



Millipede

I am a fungus. I often have a thick stem called a stalk and a cap that looks like an umbrella. I sometimes live on trees and other living things.



I have a rounded worm-like body, and I have many legs. I can be several inches long and come in a variety of colors. I eat rotting plants.



Blowfly



Pill bug



When I am young, I am a maggot. I can smell dead animals from 10 miles away. I use chemicals to soften the food I suck up and eat.



I have seven pairs of legs. I roll up in a ball when I am bothered. I like to eat leaves that have fallen off plants.



Topsoil of the Central Valley

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Topsoil of the Southern California Badlands



Landfill

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Large Compost Facility